



Minnesota
Pollution Control
Agency

Guidance on Demolition by Intentional Burning

01/2004

The asbestos National Emission Standard for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) requires all asbestos-containing materials (ACM) to be removed from a building prior to demolition by intentional burning. The NESHAP applies to a fire department's burning of residential buildings for training purposes and requires that all buildings be thoroughly inspected for asbestos prior to demolition.

Asbestos containing materials are classified as either Category I non-friable, Category II non-friable, or friable asbestos. Category I materials include, but are not limited to, such items as floor tile, linoleum flooring, gaskets, and asphalt roofing materials. Category II materials include, but are not limited to, Transite (slate) siding and cementitious roofing shingles.

Category I and Category II materials may be removed by unlicensed personnel as long as the materials are removed in a non-friable manner. Non-friable removal consists of removal in a manner which would not cause the material to be crushed, crumbled or reduced to a powder. For example, if a house was covered with Transite (slate) siding, it would be considered safe for unlicensed personnel to remove the siding as long as it is generally removed in whole pieces with as little breakage as possible and maintained in whole pieces until disposed. All asbestos containing materials must be disposed of properly.

When friable ACM such as pipe insulation, ceiling texture, or ceiling tile are present in a building, they need to be removed by a licensed asbestos abatement contractor. A list of licensed asbestos abatement contractors in the State of Minnesota can be obtained from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) or the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH).

Prior to demolition of a building by intentional burning, it is necessary for the fire department to notify the MPCA by completely filling out a "Notification of Intent to Perform a Demolition". The notification must be postmarked or delivered at least 10 working days prior to the start of demolition. Failure to notify the MPCA in a timely manner may result in an enforcement action. Completion of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) burning permit form **does not** satisfy the MPCA notification requirements.

**Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
Asbestos Program
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**FOR QUESTIONS:
Asbestos Hotline: 651/297-8685
1-800-657-3864
(ask for Asbestos Program)**